ADMINISTRATION REPORT OF MILITARY WORKS

OF THE

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,

(GENERAL BRANCH),

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY,

FOR THE YEAR

1896-97.

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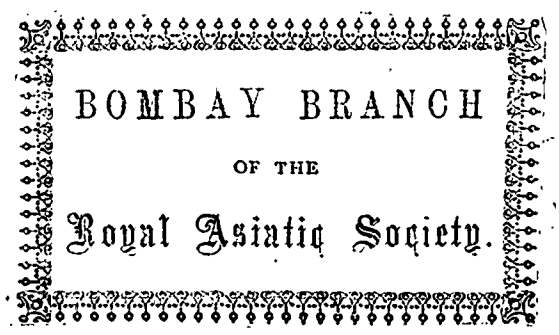

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OF THE

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,

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FOR THE YEAR 1896-97.

MILITARY WORKS.

GENERAL REMARKS.

1. The following stations were under the control of the Public Works Department during the year:—

Poona District.

Ahmednagar, Sirúr, | Purandhar, Khandála,

Satára.

Bombay District.

Málegaon, Bhúj, | Baroda, Surat,

Thána.

Deesa District.

Ahmedabad | Rájkot.

2. The expenditure during the year on Military Works (inclusive of contributions), amounted to Rs. 1,91,673, of which Rs. 65,732 were for original works; Rs. 74,636 for repairs; Rs. 30,586 for establishment; Rs. 1,964 for tools and plant; and Rs. 18,755 for Barrack Department.

3. The Military Works Revenue for the year amounted to Rs. 10,218.

4. The principal works carried out during the year were as follows:—

1.—ACCOMMODATION FOR TROOPS.

3.—IMPROVEMENTS TO EXISTING BUILDINGS IN THE HILLS.

5. The work of protecting certain military buildings at Purandhar, situated close to the slopes of the Upper Fort, from being damaged by the falling of large stones, was in progress. At intervals large boulders become detached from the hill side and roll down in the rear of buildings; to prevent accident, trenches are being excavated as high on the slope as possible, to catch the rolling stones. An expenditure of Rs. 798 was incurred during the year against the estimate of Rs. 3,942. Purandhar.

6. The work of re-roofing the Male Hospital at Purandhar, commenced last year, was continued during the year, the total expenditure being Rs. 10,580 against the estimated cost, Rs. 14,770.

7. Special repairs to the roof of the Hospital servants' quarters (old) at Purandhar, estimated to cost Rs. 2,917, were completed, the total expenditure being Rs. 2,439.

8.—Buildings for Native Infantry.

Sátára. 8. The drainage of the Native Infantry Lines at Sátára was commenced and completed during the year at a cost of Rs. 3,710 against the estimate of Rs. 3,378.

IV.—COMMISSARIAT BUILDINGS.

Ahmednagar. 9. The work of constructing two ovens in the Bakery at Ahmednagar, estimated to cost Rs. 3,293, was commenced and nearly completed during the year, the expenditure being Rs. 2,983.

VI.—STUDS.

Ahmednagar. 10. The re-roofing of the Remount Stables at Ahmednagar, commenced last year, was completed this year at an expenditure of Rs. 16,868, bringing the total to Rs. 32,148 against the estimate of Rs. 32,010. A machine-shed and two horse-sheds, which were commenced last year, were completed, the expenditure being Rs. 3,069 against the estimate of Rs. 3,228.

VIII.—GENERAL CANTONMENT WORKS.

1.—Water-supply.

Ahmedabad. 11. The extension of the Municipal water-supply to the Cantonment at Ahmedabad, described in the report for 1894-95 and referred to in the last year's report, was completed during the year at a total cost of Rs. 60,991, against the sanctioned estimate of Rs. 62,738, the outlay during the year being Rs. 2,079. The question of allowing water connections to private buildings is still under consideration.

Rájkot. 12. The project for water-supply to the Infantry and Cavalry Lines at Rájkot, commenced last year, was completed during the year at a total cost of Rs. 3,021, the estimated cost being Rs. 3,422. In connection with this water-supply project, two masonry reservoirs—one for the Native Infantry Lines with a capacity of about 4,500 gallons and the other for the Native Cavalry Lines, with a capacity of about 1,875 gallons—were provided at a cost of Rs. 2,480 from a separate sanction. The total actual cost of the whole project is, therefore, Rs. 5,501.

Kirkee. 13. The works at the Pashan Tank, consisting of laying the pipes and constructing cisterns, &c., for the water-supply of Kirkee, were maintained in an efficient state at a cost of Rs. 2,738.

14. The work of improving the water-supply of Kirkee, estimated to cost Rs. 3,09,228, was commenced during the year and Rs. 10,208 were expended up to its close.

Sátára. 15. The work in connection with the water-supply to the Sátára Cantonment, described in previous reports and already practically completed, required finishing improvements, which were carried out during the year at an outlay of Rs. 2,149. The total expenditure from the commencement amounts to Rs. 73,621 against the estimate of Rs. 73,846.

Ahmednagar. 16. No definite scheme has as yet been ready for the water-supply to the Ahmednagar Cantonment from the Bhingar aqueduct. Data are being collected as to the quality of water from the Bhingar aqueduct and also as to any supplementary supply which it may be possible to arrange for from the Ahmednagar Municipal aqueducts. Meantime, it has been arranged to dispense with bhisties for conveying water to the barracks, and the pails and mussacks have been replaced by galvanised iron water carts, fitted with taps. These are filled by hand-pumps fitted to the well openings, which are covered over.

Owing to the prevalence of scarcity in the neighbourhood of Ahmednagar, the work of constructing a tank at Kapurwadi was commenced this year. The estimated cost, including establishment charges, is Rs. 2,57,668. An expenditure of Rs. 1,288 was incurred during the year. The work has been undertaken chiefly for relief purposes, but it will be useful in supplementing the water-supply of the cantonment of Ahmednagar and of the towns of Ahmednagar and Bhingar.

IX.—FORTIFICATIONS.

17. Certain improvements to the Fortified Post at Ahmedabad, estimated to cost Rs. 8,260, were commenced during the year and Rs. 4,995 were expended up to its close. Ahmedabad.

MINOR WORKS AND REPAIRS.

18. At other stations no new works of any importance were carried out during the year; and operations were confined to minor works and the maintenance and repairs of existing buildings, water-supply works and cantonment roads.

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